

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 07499 281724 Z

62

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2247

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07499

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, RO, UK

SUBJECT: AMERY VISIT TO ROMANIA

REF: BUCHAREST 2339

1. ON JUNE 27, AN EMBASSY OFFICER CONTACTED FCO ROMANIAN DESK OFFICER GREEN TO DISCUSS THE AMERY VISIT. GREEN STATED THAT THE VISIT WAS VERY WELL ARRANGED AND THAT AMERY WAS WELL RECEIVED BY ALL THE TOP LEADERSHIP. FROM THE BRITISH POINT OF VIEW THERE WAS NOTHING VERY "SHATTERING" OR DEFINITE IN THE DISCUSSIONS, WHICH INCLUDED EUROPEAN PROBLEMS, BILATERAL TRADE AND ROMANIA'S EEC APPLICATION. OFFICIALLY THE BRITISH GOVT CONSIDERED THIS A ROUTINE VISIT IN A SERIES OF POLITICAL EXCHANGES. THE FCO RECOGNIZES THAT THE ROMANIAN GOVT CONSIDERS SUCH VISITS OF IMPORTANCE AND IS RESPONDING TO THE ROMANIAN INITIATIVE.

2. ACCORDING TO ROMANIAN FIRST SECRETARY, CROITORU, AMERY VISIT WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL " FROM BRITISH POINT OF VIEW" AND A STEP FORWARD IN FURTHERING BRITISH/ ROMANIAN RELATIONS. CROITORU DID ADMIT THAT NOTHING VERY DEFINITE IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD WAS DECIDED DUE TO BRITISH RELUCTANCE TO DISCUSS NEW AGREEMENTS AT THIS TIME. ROMANIANS ARE ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS A 10- YEAR TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE

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PAGE 02 LONDON 07499 281724 Z

BRITISH. ROMANIANS FELT THAT AMERY WAS PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN MET BY SUCH A HIGH POWERED GROUP OF OFFICIALS AND ROMANIANS HOPE FOR A VISIT OF BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER IN THE NOT- TOO- DISTANT FUTURE. CROITORU SAID THAT AMERY VISIT WAS IN RETURN FOR RECENT VISIT TO BRITAIN OF ROMANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ECOBESCU.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT ROMANIANS ARE PLACING CONSIDERABLY MORE IMPORTANCE ON THESE VISITS THAN BRITISH WHO APPEAR TO BE MERELY BEING POLITE AT THIS POINT. ANNENBERG

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

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